

## CLAIMS

1. A mobile telephone, having a plurality of different operating characteristics, the mobile telephone comprising:
  - 5 a wireless receiver for receiving a control message from a remote controller; and
  - a processor for controlling at least one operating characteristic of the mobile telephone in response to the received control message.
2. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one operating  
10 characteristic is an alert characteristic that determines how the mobile telephone alerts a user.
3. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one operating characteristic is an alert characteristic that determines how the mobile telephone  
15 alerts a user to an incoming call.
4. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 3, wherein the at least one characteristic mutes the mobile telephone.
- 20 5. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processor is operable to use a first one of a plurality of predetermined sets of operating characteristics in the mobile telephone in response to the received control message.
6. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first set of operating  
25 characteristics are selectable only in response to a received control message.
7. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 5, wherein the processor is operable to add an identifier of the first set of operating characteristics to a displayable list of identifiers identifying the plurality of sets of operating characteristics.

8. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processor is operable to toggle between at least a first operating characteristic of the mobile telephone and a second operating characteristics of the mobile telephone in response to the received control messages from the remote controller.

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9. A remote controller for use with a mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

a user input device; and

a wireless transmitter for transmitting a control message, for controlling the at

10 least one operating characteristic of the mobile telephone, in response to user activation of the user input device

10. A remote controller as claimed in claim 9, further comprising an indicator for indicating the status of the at least one operating characteristic of the mobile  
15 telephone.

11. A remote controller as claimed in claim 9, wherein a control message is transmitted in response to a single activation of the user input device.

20 12. A remote controller as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a second user input device for switching the remote controller on and off and for answering and ending an incoming call to the mobile telephone.

25 13. A remote controller according to claim 9 incorporating a clip, by means of which the controller can be clipped to an ear of a user and to an item of the user's clothing.

14. A remote controller for use with a mobile telephone as claimed in claim 4, comprising:  
30 a user input device;

a wireless transmitter for transmitting a control message for muting the mobile telephone in response to user activation of the user input device; and  
an indicator for indicating when the mobile telephone is muted.

- 5    15.    A remote controller for use with a mobile telephone, comprising:  
a user input device; and  
a wireless transmitter for transmitting a control message for controlling at least  
one operating characteristic of the mobile telephone in response to user  
activation of the user input device

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16.    A mobile telephone arrangement comprising:  
a mobile telephone, having a plurality of different operating characteristics, and a  
remote controller, wherein the mobile telephone comprises:

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a wireless receiver for receiving a control message from a remote  
controller; and

a processor for toggling between at least a first operating characteristic of  
the mobile telephone and a second operating characteristics of the mobile  
telephone in response to the received control messages from a remote  
controller; and wherein

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the remote controller, comprises:

a user input device; and

a wireless transmitter for transmitting a control message in response to  
each user activation of the user input device.

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